

RHIZOSPHERE BIOTECHNOLOGY: PLANT GROWTH – RETROSPECT AND PROSPECT

Chief Editor

Dr. A.K. Roy

Professor of Botany
P.G. Dept. of Biotechnology
T.M. Bhagalpur University,
Bhagalpur - 812 007 (INDIA)

Co-editors

Dr. B.N. Chakraborty

Professor, Dean Faculty of Sciences
North Bengal University, Darjeeling (INDIA)

Dr. D.S. Mukadam

Prof. & Head Dept. of Botany
B.R. Ambedkar University, Aurangabad (Mah.) (INDIA)

Dr. Rashmi

Scientist, Univ. Deptt. of Botany
T.M. Bhagalpur University, Bhagalpur - 812 007 (INDIA)



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PREFACE

All the chapters of this book constitute the proceedings of the National Symposium entitled “Rhizosphere Biotechnology/Microbes – Retrospects and prospects” held on 29-30 November, 2004, at University, Department of Botany, T.M. Bhagalpur University. The symposium was cosponsored by Ministry of Environment and Forests and Ministry of Science and Technology, Department of Biotechnology, Govt. of India, New Delhi and T.M. Bhagalpur University, Bhagalpur. A galaxy of scientists and experts from different parts of the country participated in the symposium and exchanged their views on “Role of microbes inhabiting in plant roots as symbionts or asymbionts in the surrounding rhizosphere soil on the agricultural growth of the country”. The delegates, who participated in the symposium, orally presented their contributions related to Rhizosphere microbial world. Dr. Anupam Varma, National Professor, IARI, New Delhi was the chief guest of the symposium and in his address he correlated the health of the plant with the health of human population. Prof. P.C. Patanjali, Vice-Chancellor of the University inaugurated the symposium and in his inaugural speech he emphasized that the researches are being conducted in the lab to be moved to the doors of the farmers. Prof. J.V.V. Dogra, Head, University, Dept. of Botany, welcomed the participants and enlightened them with the close relationship between microbial metabolites of rhizosphere zone to plant growth. More than 20 scientists including Agric Microbiologists, Microbial physiologists

and Experts of related field actively participated in the academic deliberation and contributed their lecture papers for publication in the Proceeding Volume.

The proceeding includes Special lectures, Review articles and Research papers in the form of Book chapters covering almost all aspects of focal theme of the symposium, which will be of immense utility to the researchers, P.G. students and to those working in allied field.

The editor and his team express their deep sense of gratitude to all the senior scientists who participated in the symposium and to all the faculty members of the department for providing encouragement and facilities for holding the symposium. We are also thankful to MoEF, DBT, New Delhi and T.M.B.U for providing the financial assistance.

Editors

CONTRIBUTORS

A.K. Roy

Dept. of Botany, T.M. Bhagalpur
University, Bhagalpur- 812 007

A.B. Ade

Soil Microbiology and Pesticides
Laboratory, Department of Botany,
Dr. B.A. Marathwada Univ.,
Aurangabad 431 004 (Mah.)

A.N. Singh

Microbiology & Plant Path. Lab.
Dept. of Botany,
T.M. Bhagalpur University Bhagalpur
- 812 007 (Bihar)

Archana Dube

Lab of Microbial Technology,
Department of Botany,
Dr. H.S. Gour University, Sagar (M.P.)

Anuradha Soni

Lab of Microbial Technology,
Department of Botany, Dr. H.S. Gour.
University, Sagar (M.P.)

A. Tanti

Department of Mycology &
Microbiology, Plant Protection
Division, Tocklai Experimental
Station, Tea Research Association,
Jorhat -785 008 (Assam)

Ansal Arshi

Microbiology & Plant Path. Lab.
Dept. of Botany
T.M. Bhagalpur University
Bhagalpur - 812 007 (Bihar)

Arnab Sen

Molecular Genetics Laboratory,
Department of Botany,
University of North Bengal, Siliguri
734 430 (W.B.)

Arundhati Pal

Microbiology Laboratory, Dept. of
Botany, University of Calcutta,
35, Ballygunge Circular Road,
Kolkata 700 019 (W.B.)

A.K. Paul

Microbiology Laboratory, Department
of Botany, University of Calcutta,
35, Ballygunge Circular Road
Kolkata 700 019 (W.B.)

B.N. Chakraborty

Immuno-Phytopathology Laboratory,
Dept. of Botany,
University of North Bengal,
Siliguri-734 430 Dt. Darjeeling (WB)

B.K. Barthakur

Dept. of Mycology & Microbiology,
Plant Protection Division, Tocklai
Experimental Station, Tea Research
Association, Jorhat 785 008 (Assam)

B.C. Barman

Immuno-Phytopathology Laboratory,
Dept. of Botany, University of North
Bengal, Siliguri -734 430 (W.B.)

D. Deb

Immuno-Phytopathology Laboratory,
Dept. of Botany, University of N.
Bengal, Siliguri - 734 430 (W.B.)

D.S. Mukadam

Department of Botany,
Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar
Marathwada University,
Aurangabad 431 004 (Mah.)

Deepak Vyas

Lab of Microbial Technology,
Department of Botany,
Dr. H.S. Gour University, Sagar (M.P.)

Ivy Phukan

Department of Mycology &
Microbiology, Plant Protection
Division, Tocklai Experimental
Station, Tea Research Association,
Jorhat -785 008 (Assam)

Jamaluddin

Tropical Forest Research Institute,
P.O.- RFRC,
Jabalpur – 482 021 (M.P.)

J.K. Johri

National Botanical Res. Instt.,
Lucknow-226 001 (U.P.)

K.G. Mukerji

Department of Botany, University
of Delhi, Delhi -110 007, India

K.K. Sinha

Mycotoxigenology Lab. Dept. of Botany,
TM Bhagalpur University
Bhagalpur - 812 007 (Bihar)

L.V. Gangawane

Soil Microbiology and Pesticides
Laboratory, Dept. of Botany,
Dr. B.A. Marathwada Univ.,
Aurangabad 431 004 (Mah.)

L.P. Bhutia

Immuno-Phytopathology Laboratory,
Dept. of Botany,
University of North Bengal,
Siliguri-734 430 (W.B.)

M.K. Roy

Dept. of Botany
TM Bhagalpur University
Bhagalpur - 812 007 (Bihar)

Manas Kanti Ghosh

Molecular Genetics Laboratory,
Department of Botany,
University of North Bengal,
Siliguri 734 430 (W.B.)

Mahendra Kumar Mishra

Lab of Microbial Technology,
Department of Botany,
Dr. H.S. Gour University, Sagar (M.P.)

M. Basnet

Immuno-Phytopathology Laboratory,
Dept. of Botany,
University of North Bengal,
Siliguri - 734 430 (W.B.)

N.K. Gautam

Microbiology & Plant Path. Lab.
Dept. of Botany
TM Bhagalpur University
Bhagalpur - 812 007 (Bihar)

N.M. Ghangaonkar

Department of Botany,
Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar
Marathwada University,
Aurangabad - 431 004 (Mah.)

O.P. Dwivedi

Lab of Microbial Technology,
Department of Botany,
Dr. H.S.Gour University,
Sagar (M.P.)

P. Dutta

Department of Mycology &
Microbiology, Plant Protection
Division, Tocklai Experimental
Station, Tea Research Association,
Jorhat -785 008 (Assam)

Prashant Soni

Lab of Microbial Technology,
Department of Botany,
Dr. H.S. Gour University, Sagar (M.P.)

P.K. Ghosh

Cadila Pharmaceuticals Ltd.
Cadila Corporate Campus,
Ahmedabad -382 210 (Gujarat)

Rashmi

Dept of Botany,
T.M. Bhagalpur University,
Bhagalpur-812 007 (Bihar)

Raj Narayan Roy

School of Life Sciences,
Department of Botany, Visva-Bharati,
Santiniketan-731235, (W.B.)

Rajni Gupta

Department of Botany, University of
Delhi, Delhi-110 007, India

R. Batsa

Dept. of Botany,
TM Bhagalpur University,
Bhagalpur - 812 007 (Bihar)

R. Begum

Dept. of Mycology & Microbiology,
Plant Protection Division,
Tocklai Experimental Station,
Tea Research Association,
Jorhat -785 008 (Assam)

R. Phukan

Department of Mycology &
Microbiology, Plant Protection
Division, Tocklai Experimental
Station, Tea Research Association,
Jorhat -785 008 (Assam)

Sukanta Kumar Sen

School of Life Sciences,
Department of Botany, Visva-Bharati,
Santiniketan - 731 235 (W.B.)

S.R. Sarmah

Department of Mycology &
Microbiology, Plant Protection
Division, Tocklai Experimental
Station, Tea Research Association,
Jorhat -785 008 (Assam)

S. Debnath

Department of Mycology &
Microbiology, Plant Protection
Division, Tocklai Experimental
Station, Tea Research Association,
Jorhat -785 008 (Assam)

Saubashya Sur

Molecular Genetics Laboratory,
Department of Botany,
University of North Bengal,
Siliguri 734 430 (Assam)

S. Chaudhuri

Department of Plant Pathology,
B.C. Krishi Viswavidyalaya
(State Agricultural University),
Kalyani, 741 235 (W.B.)

U. Chakraborty

Immuno-Phytopathology Laboratory,
Department of Botany,
University of North Bengal,
Siliguri- 734 430 (W. B)

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